

anti erosion works in Coastal and other than Ganga Basin States" at an estimated cost of Rs. 39.98 crore (Central Share Rs. 30 crore) for providing assistance to all Coastal States and all non Ganga Basin States, including Kerala for undertaking coastal and river protection works proposed by this Ministry has been given 'in-principle' clearance by the Planning Commission.

Problem of water in the country

3252. SHRI NANA DESHMUKH: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Prime Minister while inaugurating a two days seminar recently in May in the capital has told that out of 2.5 billion people in next quarter century in the world, most of these people without access to drinking water will be in India;

(b) whether the Prime Minister has also stressed that the Center and the State alone cannot solve the problem and the situation do need the services of NGOs, VOs, industrial houses and citizens; and

(c) if so, what steps are being taken to get their real co-operation in order to solve this ticklish issue?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The Central Ground Water Board under the Ministry of Water Resources is implementing a scheme at a cost of Rs. 25.00 crore for "Artificial Recharge of Ground Water". The scheme envisages construction of various recharge structures in over-exploited and dark blocks of the country. There is a provision for participation of NGOs for implementation of various works under this scheme. The Central Ground Water Authority has organised mass awareness programmes for educating and enlisting the co-operation and participation of NGOs/VOs/industrial houses/citizens in various Government programmes relating to water management.

The National Human Resources Development Programme of the Ministry of Rural Development which was set up to build up a human resource base of appropriately trained personnel to serve

the needs of the rural water supply and sanitation sector also provides for networking with NGOs.

Presence of Flouride in Ground Water of Ghaziabad

3253. SHRI PREM CHAND GUPTA:

SHRI SANJAY NIRUPAM:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that 62 samples of ground water taken from 4 sub-divisions of Ghaziabad districts bordering Delhi were found to contain high level of flouride;

(b) whether fluorosis is a potentially crippling disease which is caused by and excessive content of flouride in the water; and

(c) if so, what action Government have taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) The Central Ground Water Board has analysed 106 water samples collected from the district of Ghaziabad and has found that some samples contain sporadic flouride content upto maximum level of 2.2 milligram/litre.

(b) The flouride level more than 10 milligram/litre causes fluorosis. Long use of water having flouride content upto 2.5 miligram/litre causes mottling and pitting of teeth.

(c) With a view to providing water free from fluoride to the people, deflouridation plants have been installed under the Rajiv Gandhi National Drinking Water Mission. The Government has also taken the following steps to provide safe drinking water to the people:—

(i) The Central Ground Water Authority notifies areas from time to time for control and regulation of ground water development. So far it has notified Najafgarh and Mehrauli blocks of NCT Delhi, Municipal Corporation area of Faridabad, Ballabgarh and Ghaziabad, Ludhiana city, Diu and Jhotwara block of Jaipur district, Rajasthan.

(ii) Identification of hand pumps and other structures in